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**ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
VOCATIONAL  
REHABILITATION  
DEPARTMENT**

**FISCAL YEAR 1980-81**



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**J.S. Dusenbury  
Commissioner**

# **ANNUAL REPORT** **of the** **SOUTH CAROLINA** **VOCATIONAL** **REHABILITATION** **DEPARTMENT** **FISCAL YEAR 1980-81**



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<b>J.S. Dusenbury</b> <b>Commissioner</b>	

## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The Honorable Richard W. Riley  
Governor of South Carolina  
The State House  
Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Sir:

I hereby submit to the General Assembly, through you, the annual report of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department for the fiscal year 1981, in compliance with the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended.

Behind the statistics found in this report are thousands of once disabled men and women who have been helped to have better lives through the services of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Yours very truly,

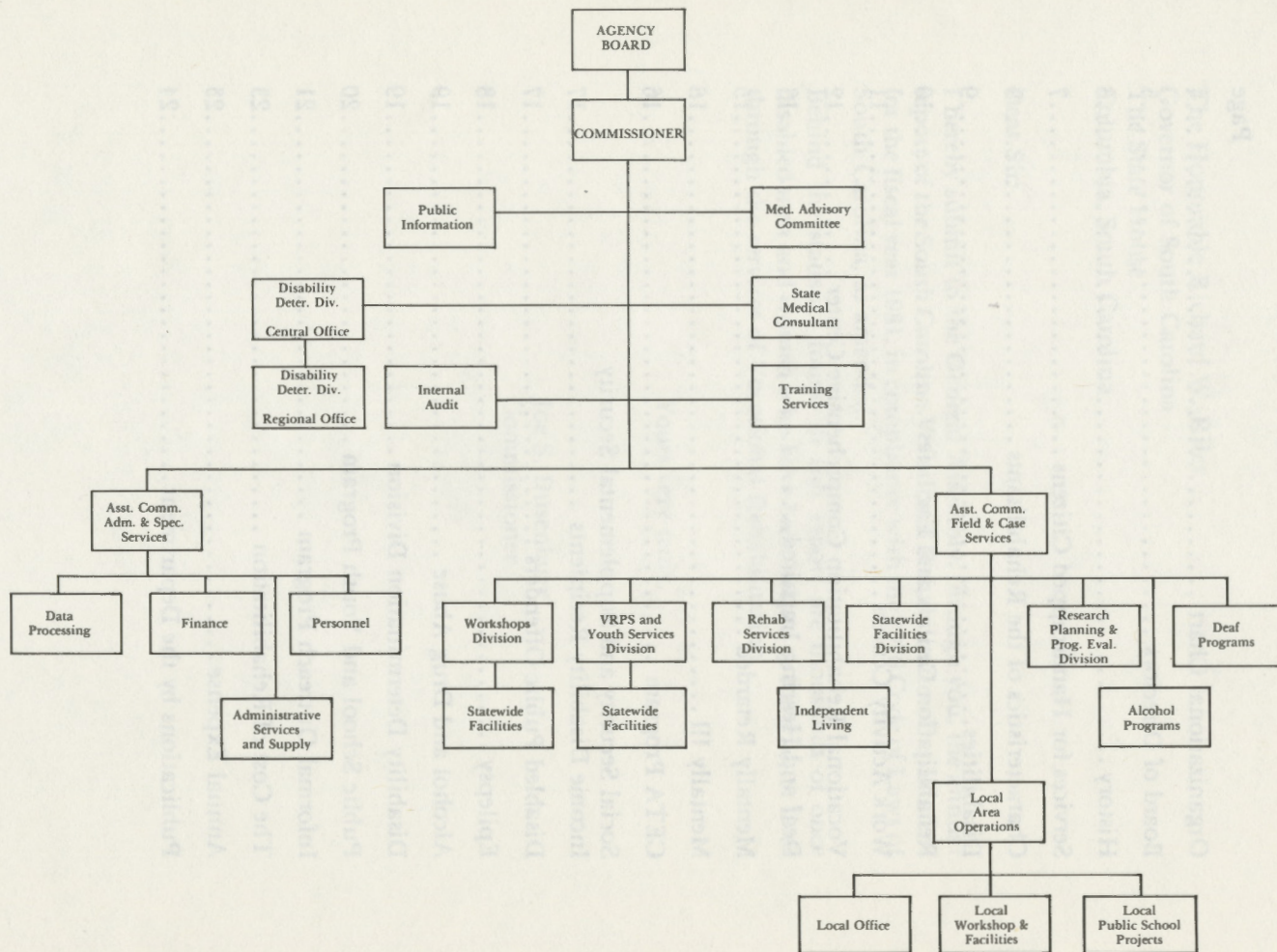
Joe S. Dusenbury  
Commissioner



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

E. Roy Stone, Jr., Greenville, Chairman

Dr. H.L. Laffitte, Allendale, Vice Chairman

Joe S. Dusenbury, Columbia, Secretary

Dr. T. James Bell, Jr., Hartsville

Harry W. Findley, Anderson

Daniel E. Martin, Charleston

John A. Montgomery, Columbia

John A. Montgomery, Columbia



## HISTORY

The Vocational Rehabilitation program began in South Carolina in 1927, as a division of the South Carolina Department of Education, with one full-time and two part-time employees. It was not until 1957 that the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department was established as a separate state agency. Since the beginning of the program, 201,357 disabled people have been placed in gainful employment following rehabilitation services.

The Department now has 14 area offices and 11 satellite offices to serve clients in all locations of the state. In addition, rehabilitation centers are located near most area offices to provide evaluation and training to clients. Evaluation centers are also located within other state institutions, and mobile evaluation units provide services to handicapped persons living in rural areas of South Carolina. Services have been improved and expanded by setting up specialized facilities in cooperation with public and private groups and organizations. Coordinated services in special facilities are considered to be one of the main keys to enabling thousands of disabled individuals to become self-sufficient members of society.

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 placed emphasis on services to the severely disabled. These cases usually require a wider range of comprehensive rehabilitation services over an extended period of time. In many cases, the severity of the disability makes the individual unsuited to many kinds of employment; so placement may take more time.

In spite of these factors, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department has been very successful in placing the severely disabled in employment following provision of services through the Department.



## SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED CITIZENS

Offices in 14 areas of South Carolina provide rehabilitation services to all South Carolinians with handicapping conditions. Uniform services are provided in each of the offices operated by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department.

In order to qualify for services through the Department, a person must have a physical or mental disability which for that individual constitutes or results in a substantial handicap to employment and a reasonable expectation that vocational rehabilitation services may benefit the individual in terms of employability.

A disabled person may need one or more services offered through the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department in order to prepare for his return to gainful employment.

**COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE** is a continuous service provided to all clients through the entire rehabilitation process. The counselor and client develop an individualized program of services according to the needs of the client, his interest and aptitudes, with the ultimate goal of gainful employment upon completion of services.

A thorough **EVALUATION** of the client's medical, social, psychological and vocational needs provides insight into potential for employment, as well as the nature and scope of services needed to lead the individual toward a suitable occupation.

All rehabilitation services contribute toward **JOB PLACEMENT**, and no client is considered rehabilitated until he begins working on a job suited to his vocational and physical ability. Every client receives **FOLLOW-UP** services to ensure that his rehabilitation is successful and that both he and the employer are satisfied.

Some clients may require additional services prior to job placement, such as adjustment services, training, provision of artificial appliances, or other related services.

**ADJUSTMENT SERVICES** provided within the vocational rehabilitation program assist the client in learning to deal with day-to-day problems, as well as getting along in the community and on the job.

Wheelchairs, limbs, braces, hearing aids, and other kinds of **ARTIFICIAL APPLIANCES** may be provided for clients who would otherwise be unable to perform satisfactorily on the job.

A client may also receive maintenance and/or transportation payments to allow him to get maximum benefits from other aspects of his rehabilitation program.

TRAINING in vocational and technical schools, business schools, as well as in colleges and universities may be sponsored by Vocational Rehabilitation, in keeping with the client's employment goals, if he is unable to obtain assistance through other sources. This equips the client with skills to improve his salability on the job market.

In addition, occupational licenses, tools, equipment and supplies may be included as a part of Vocational Rehabilitation services to increase the individual's prospects of successful employment or self-employment.

All services are expected to assist the client in his search for suitable employment, as it did last year for 9,654 handicapped South Carolinians.



## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE REHABILITANTS

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department was successful in rehabilitating 9,654 clients during 1981.

At the time of referral:

76.9% were unemployed

13.7% were in tax supported institutions

53.5% were dependent on family and friends for livelihood

60.0% had less than 12th grade education

Of the 9,654 clients rehabilitated, 51.7% were male; and 56.2% were white, 43.3% black and .5% other.

## DISABILITIES

Rehabilitation of the handicapped has paid off as the disabled become productive. Services provided by the Vocational Rehabilitation Department are extended to persons handicapped by many types of disabilities.

The 9,654 rehabilitants served by Vocational Rehabilitation in 1981 had these disabilities.

Type of Disability	Number of Rehabilitants
Blood Disease .....	21
Speech Impairments .....	38
Absence of Limbs .....	129
Respiratory Diseases .....	154
Cancer .....	159
Epilepsy and Nervous Disorders.....	181
Visual Impairments.....	199
Allergy, Endocrine Disorders .....	362
Hearing Impairments .....	444
Heart and Circulatory Conditions ...	509
Genito-Urinary System Disorders....	611
Digestive System Disorders .....	1,040
Mental Retardation .....	1,172
Orthopedic Deformity.....	1,178
Mental Illness .....	3,138
Other Disabling Conditions .....	319



## **Rehabilitation Centers and Facilities**

The rehabilitation centers and facilities of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department are designed to assist in the coordination, development and provision of comprehensive rehabilitation services to the handicapped citizens of the State of South Carolina.

A Vocational Rehabilitation center has as its main emphasis the provision of comprehensive evaluation and adjustment training services. Vocational evaluation, including I.Q., aptitude, interest and dexterity testing, to indicate the functional limitations of the client, is provided by the staff of the facility. The center also provides comprehensive adjustment training, which may include personal grooming classes, world of work groups, activities of daily living classes, work adjustment through the utilization of contract activities, academic classes and other services as required. These centers serve all disability groups.

The Department operates a network of rehabilitation centers located in strategic areas throughout the state. These fourteen community-based centers in addition to a special project in industry are placing emphasis on the rehabilitation of the severely disabled with an array of services geared to meet the individual needs of the handicapped clients.

New rehabilitation centers have been completed in some areas and plans are under way for construction of more centers. The new centers which are owned and operated by the Department, are located in Charleston, Greenville, Orangeburg, Walterboro, Sumter, Conway, Aiken, Spartanburg and Columbia.

Other centers in the state are operating within rented space, which has been adapted for the most effective and efficient delivery of adjustment, evaluation and training services to handicapped individuals.

### **Centers are operated in the following locations:**

- |               |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| *Aiken        | *Florence   | *Rock Hill  |
| *Anderson     | Greenville  | Spartanburg |
| Bennettsville | *Conway     | *Sumter     |
| Charleston    | *Greenwood  | *Walterboro |
| Columbia      | *Orangeburg |             |

\*Work activity centers for the severely mentally retarded in these facilities.

## **Work Activity Centers**

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the South Carolina Department of Mental Retardation have, through a cooperative agreement, set up work activity centers in an attempt to provide improved services to the severely mentally retarded of the state.

The work activity center program began with two centers, one in Anderson and one in Rock Hill, in 1973, with initial funding under the Developmental Disabilities Act. All are now operated jointly by Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Mental Retardation. Centers are now in operation in Greenwood, Aiken, Orangeburg, Walterboro, Conway, Florence and Sumter as well. Future plans provide for centers in all of the Vocational Rehabilitation Centers in the state.

Services offered in these projects include evaluation, personal and social adjustment, work adjustment, on-the-job training, as well as daily living classes.

The program is designed to take the severely mentally retarded population out of institutions and provide them with the training they need in order to take their places in society. These citizens will, hopefully, be able to return to the community and earn a livelihood as a result of the program. Because of the severity of their disabilities, these handicapped people usually require a longer transition period before their employment.

The work activity centers served 354 severely mentally retarded clients during Fiscal year 80-81.

## **Statewide Facilities**

In an effort to provide Vocational Rehabilitation services to as many different disability groups as possible, the Department has established projects within a number of facilities around the state operated by other state agencies and working in cooperation with other agencies.

Such facilities are located as follows:

- Morris Village Alcohol and Drug Addiction Center, Columbia
- Holmesview Alcoholic Center, Greenville
- Palmetto Center, Florence
- Cedar Spring Facility for the Deaf, Spartanburg



Evaluation and Adjustment Center for the Deaf, Opportunity School, West Columbia

Vocational Rehabilitation Evaluation Center, Opportunity School, West Columbia

Vocational Rehabilitation Comprehensive Center, West Columbia

Dill Beckman Vocational Rehabilitation Facility, Ladson

Midlands Rehabilitation Facility, Columbia

Whitten Village Rehabilitation Facility, Clinton

Medical University Hospital Facilities, Charleston

Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Speech and Hearing Facility

Cardio-Vascular Facility

Peripheral Vascular Facility

Epilepsy Rehabilitation Facility

Referral Unit

Amputee Clinic

#### **Public Offender Facilities**

Manning Correctional Institution, Columbia

Watkins Pre-Release Center, Columbia

Correctional Institution for Women, Columbia

Wateree Correctional Institution, Boykin

Blue Ridge Community Pre-Release Center, Greenville

MacDougall Youth Correction Center, Ridgeville

State Park Health Center, Columbia

Crafts-Farrow Hospital Rehabilitation Facility, Columbia

G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, Columbia

State Hospital Rehabilitation Facility, Columbia

William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute, Columbia

S.C. Department of Youth Services, Columbia

#### **Vocational Rehabilitation Comprehensive Center**

Severely handicapped clients in South Carolina have had some difficulty in the past in getting from one location to another in order to receive necessary services.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Comprehensive Center in West Columbia has helped in alleviating this problem. The statewide facility is the only residential facility of its kind operated by the Department to provide services to its severely disabled clients.



The Center provides a program of services which is designed to meet the individualized needs of the severely disabled. The services are coordinated between the Rehabilitation team at the facility and the Vocational Rehabilitation counselor at the local level to ensure that the clients of the Department receive maximum utilization of the service delivery system established at the Center.

The Center can accommodate 35 clients at any one time, including residents and out-patients. Services at the facility include physical therapy, occupational therapy, hydrotherapy and activities of daily living.

In addition, the Center is equipped and staffed to provide gait and mobility training, speech and hearing services, vocational and psychological evaluation and support services which consist of recreation, dining and residential care. The uniqueness of the Center lies in the provision of these services in one location, thus eliminating the necessity of transporting Vocational Rehabilitation clients throughout the community or state for needed individual services which can now be provided at the Comprehensive Center. However, any services not provided at the Center can be coordinated with other agencies, facilities, and organizations in order to provide maximum services to meet the individual needs of severely disabled individuals.

The Comprehensive Center is staffed to provide twenty-four hour services as needed. The barrier free building includes dormitory facilities for eighteen residents and, by residing in such a facility, clients can learn to become more self-sufficient in taking care of their daily needs. This, in turn, makes them more suitable for employment when they return to their communities within the state.

During fiscal year 1981, 198 clients received services through the Comprehensive Center.

### **Deaf and Hearing Impaired**

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired is composed of professional and nonprofessional staff members located strategically throughout South Carolina to serve only the hearing impaired. Vocational Rehabilitation specialty staff receive extensive training in development of communication skills with the deaf as well as psychological and audiological aspects of hearing impaired.

The Adult Deaf Evaluation and Training Center, operated in cooperation with the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School in West Columbia, serves severely disabled deaf individuals from across the state. Services being provided at the Adult Deaf Center include guidance and counseling, evaluation, personal, social and work adjustment training, speech therapy, communication training (sign language and finger-spelling), recreation programs and job training.

During fiscal year 1980-81, clients were primarily referred by physicians, schools for the physically handicapped, artificial appliance companies, educational institutions, interested individuals, deaf consumers and other social service related industries.

Cases accepted for services under the program include the following:

	Served	Rehabilitated
Deafness, unable to talk	400	49
Deaf, able to talk	170	33
Other Hearing Impairments	<u>1,229</u>	<u>362</u>
Total	1,799	444

The Vocational Rehabilitation facility located on the campus and in cooperation with the South Carolina School for the Deaf continues to work with the deaf students while they are attending Cedar Spring. Upon graduation the students are transferred to their respective home areas and services are continued until completion by the specialty counselors.

A continued effort is being made to provide adequate services through the local speech and hearing centers throughout the state and with the medical community. Also, more involvement with the deaf community and their organizations has continued to provide a channel of communication between the Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the hearing impaired population.

**Multi-Handicapped Program** - During the past year, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department continued its cooperation with the South Carolina School for the Deaf, with the multi-handicapped unit housed on the grounds at Cedar Spring. The purpose of this innovative program is to evaluate the vocational needs of the multi-handicapped students and to provide services to maximize their future employment goals based on individual capabilities. These students have two or more handicaps and are



being served by a specialty trained staff in cooperation with the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind.

**Life Functioning Skills Program** - A modular unit is located on the grounds of the Dill D. Beckman Comprehensive Center in West Columbia for the purpose of providing supplemental adjustment programs which serve as a transitional phase from the traditional vocational rehabilitation program into community living. The unit is architecturally barrier-free and serves a full range of severely disabled clients with a primary emphasis on the deaf and hearing impaired. The primary objective is to create awareness of the world around us and to develop the handicapped individual's ability to live independently.

### **Mentally Retarded**

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department also provides services to severely mentally retarded individuals in three state institutions. These services are geared to benefit mentally retarded people who need residential services rather than local community services. These are carried out in coordination with the South Carolina Department of Mental Retardation.

Services provided to these clients include vocational evaluation, adjustment training, community resident placement, job placement, training and follow-up services to ensure that the client is progressing well in his new lifestyle.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the Department of Mental Retardation have developed community residences within the state for those clients being transferred from institutions into competitive employment. This program has allowed for an extension of vocational rehabilitation services within the Vocational Rehabilitation units at the institution.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Unit at Whitten Village is now serving clients from the institution population. Midlands Center is a statewide facility, whereby clients are referred by Vocational Rehabilitation counselors in other areas for an individualized comprehensive program of services to meet the individual needs of the clients. At Coastal Center, the Vocational Rehabilitation unit is providing services to the institutional population as well as reaching the communities through several public schools. This attempt has allowed for a delivery of services that would otherwise have been unavailable for the retarded citizens in that area of the state.



During fiscal year 1980-81, there were 8,522 clients with the disability of mental retardation, of whom 1,172 were closed as successfully rehabilitated.

### **Mentally Ill**

The Department also served a large number of mentally ill individuals referred from institutional programs and a wide variety of community agencies.

Cooperative programs have been developed with the Department of Mental Health to serve individuals in the State Hospital Rehabilitation Facility, William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute, Crafts-Farrow Hospital Rehabilitation Facility and the G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital.

During fiscal year 1980-81, there were 13,574 clients served and 2,294 rehabilitated who had been diagnosed as mentally ill, excluding those with alcoholism, drug addiction and drug abuse.

### **CETA Program**

During Fiscal Year 1980-81 the Vocational Rehabilitation Department was one of the three major sub-contractors providing services to CETA participants who were involved in the various programs sponsored by CETA. The other two state subcontractors which worked cooperatively with the Vocational Rehabilitation Department were Employment Service and Technical Education.

This program is funded through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) under the Department of Labor. It is designed to provide employment and training along with other individualized services to assist the economically disadvantaged and unemployed population of the state. The goal of the program is to allow individuals to receive services which will better prepare them to enter the labor market.

A number of these individuals under the CETA program have physical and mental disabilities, for which vocational rehabilitation services are appropriate.

Full-time Vocational Rehabilitation counselors and evaluators serve CETA enrollees in the provision of basic medical evaluation, minor medical services and assessment services statewide.

Sixteen assessment centers are available for ascertaining the CETA enrollee's vocational potential.

Approximately \$1,283,631 was made available to the Vocational Rehabilitation Department for services and equipment through the CETA program enabling the Department to provide 4,677 basic medical evaluations and minor medical services and 4,817 assessments to CETA participants.

### **Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Disability Recipients**

Social Security Disability beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income Disability recipients have been served by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department since the beginning of the disability programs. Many of these severely disabled individuals have, as the result of rehabilitation services, been able to return to the labor market, no longer being in need of Social Security benefits or Supplemental Security Income payments.

Special funding has been available to state vocational rehabilitation programs for this purpose but will no longer be available after September 30, 1981. New legislation has been passed however, which will provide reimbursement funding to states for the successful accomplishment of returning Social Security beneficiaries to the labor market earning on a level of income which would result in their being terminated from the Social Security rolls, and who remain earning on this level of income for a continuous period of nine (9) months.

Continued emphasis will be placed on serving these severely disabled recipients of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability payments in an effort to assist as many of them as possible in returning to the labor market. All counselors will now have the responsibility of serving the beneficiary/client in his or her territory over the state.

During Federal Fiscal Year 1980, South Carolina rehabilitated 332 Social Security beneficiaries and 163 Supplemental Security Income recipients into employment.

### **Disabled Public Offenders**

Last year the Vocational Rehabilitation Department served approximately 5,828 public offenders and rehabilitated 1,462. The



Public Offender Project provides rehabilitation services to the public offender within the institution and to the ex-offender in the community who is deemed eligible because of a physical or mental disability. Services provided on a need basis consist of assessment, counseling and guidance, placement and follow-up.

The Department is presently working with a majority of the public offenders who are eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services. Through close coordination between the Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the Department of Corrections, the project is endeavoring to provide a better service delivery system to those public offenders eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections now operates seven work release centers and two pre-release centers. The Vocational Rehabilitation Department is included in most of these centers to assist the client in his exit to the community, as well as follow-up services once the client has returned to the community. The Vocational Rehabilitation counselor plays an integral part in assisting the public offender in his reintegration into the community.

With the vocational rehabilitation services provided while the public offender is incarcerated and the services provided after his release, a disabled public offender receives the reinforcement necessary to ensure his successful rehabilitation.

The follow-up program for these clients who are deemed eligible for vocational rehabilitation services is now carried by nine counselors located in strategic areas of the state who serve primarily those clients who have been transferred from various institutions within the correctional setting.

## **Epilepsy**

A concentrated effort is being made through the Epilepsy Rehabilitation Facility at the Medical University Hospital in Charleston to provide the necessary services for epileptic clients. The facility was set up as a result of a grant through the Developmental Disabilities Act, specifically for these clients who need a well-coordinated delivery of services, usually for a longer period of time than many other rehabilitation clients. A major portion of their rehabilitation deals with educating the client and his family on the nature of epilepsy.

Last year 769 clients with a disability of epilepsy received services through the Department. This number includes clients from other areas of the state who are served by rehabilitation counselors in their home communities as well as 164 clients served by a full-time rehabilitation counselor at the Medical University facility.

### **Alcohol and Drug Abuse**

During the 1980-81 fiscal year, Vocational Rehabilitation served 3,551 clients handicapped by alcohol abuse and 729 handicapped by drug abuse. 709 alcoholics and 135 drug abusers were successfully rehabilitated.

Two treatment centers administered by Vocational Rehabilitation provide in-patient therapy to the alcoholic. Palmetto Center in Florence served 480 residents this past year, while Holmesview Center, located in Greenville, served 379 clients. Both centers support the referring Vocational Rehabilitation field counselors who remain responsible for follow-up services once the client returns to his home community.

Vocational Rehabilitation counselors and mental health counselors use the Earle E. Morris Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center for clients needing in-patient therapy for the misuse of drugs and alcohol. A Vocational Rehabilitation unit at the Center provides clients a comprehensive vocational assessment plus personal and social adjustment services.

Although no longer funded through NIAAA training grant, Palmetto Center continues to offer the Community Training Seminar for local community professional and lay persons upon request.

The programs for treatment of alcohol and drug abuse use community resources to augment their effectiveness, such as Alcoholics Anonymous groups and other such organizations.

### **Disability Determination Division**

The Disability Determination Division has the responsibility for processing claims for disability benefits filed under the provisions of the Social Security Act of 1954 and under the Supplemental Security Income Program which went into effect January 1, 1974. Under both programs, benefits may be paid to disabled individuals who are



unable to engage in substantial gainful activity by reason of their medical impairments. The Disability Division is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that sound medical evidence is obtained and that the decision to allow or deny benefits meets all of the requirements of the Social Security regulations and the law.

The Disability Determination Division of the Vocational Rehabilitation Department has 154 full-time and 7 part-time staff members, including 9 full-time and 6 part-time physicians trained in a wide range of specialties. The Division has Regional Offices in Columbia, Greenville and Charleston. All professional personnel are trained in the evaluation of medical and vocational factors and the disability decisions are made jointly by professional Disability Examiners and physicians.

In addition to determining disability, each claim is reviewed to determine if the individual has rehabilitation potential regardless of whether or not benefits are allowed. All individuals who are felt to have such potential are referred to counselors with the general program or the Trust Fund Program of Social Security.

During FY 81, a large number of benefit recipients who had been referred to Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors for services were successfully rehabilitated. This represents a significant savings in government spending, but in addition, the individuals have gained personal satisfaction as a result of their re-entry into the mainstream of society as contributing members.

During the past fiscal year, the Disability Determination Division processed 45,000 claims for disability benefits. As of October, 1980 monthly benefits for Social Security Disability beneficiaries totaled \$16,876,502. There are also more than 42,000 Supplemental Security Disability beneficiaries in the state receiving monthly payments totaling \$8,000,000. In addition to the actual benefits received by South Carolinians, the program resulted in expenditures of over \$1,620,000 for medical evaluation services for fiscal year 1981.

### **Public School and Youth Program**

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department has a cooperative arrangement with the State Department of Education and local school districts in many areas of the state to provide rehabilitation services to eligible physically, mentally, and emotionally handicapped students in the secondary schools.

The services rendered in this program are the same type provided to other vocational rehabilitation clients. They include counseling and guidance, personal and social adjustment training, medical and vocational evaluation and placement assistance to determine the type of work for which the student will be best suited upon completion of his formal education.

A program of services is also available for youth out of school. These individuals may be returned to school, placed in on-the-job training, or placed in some specialized vocational training program in keeping with their abilities and interests.

The Department also cooperates with the Department of Youth Services in providing services to youth under their supervision. This effort has, in many areas, resulted in the use of Vocational Rehabilitation services as an alternative to incarceration.

The Department has established fifteen satellite workshops which operate within existing VR-PS programs. This work component has provided valuable work experience as well as monetary compensation in a competitive production environment as a part of the student's overall curriculum. Students also received Carnegie units for their participation in the work adjustment program.

There were 13,342 physically, mentally, and emotionally handicapped students served through the public school and youth programs across the state last year, of whom 1,893 were successfully rehabilitated.

There are VR-PS programs located in the following areas: Abbeville, Aiken, Anderson, Batesburg, Beaufort, Campobello, Charleston, Cherokee, Chester, Columbia, Conway, Dentsville, Dillon, Florence, Graniteville, Greenville, Greenwood, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Lexington, Newberry, Oconee, Orangeburg, Pickens, Rock Hill, Spartanburg, Sumter, Union, York, Walterboro and Georgetown.

### **Informational Outreach Program**

#### **Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped**

Through a new program funded by a Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) grant, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department has implemented an informational outreach program. The program is designed to create statewide interest in rehabilitation of handicapped citizens and to



promote their employment in the communities around the state.

Additional Vocational Rehabilitation staff members are developing and implementing this program by organizing volunteer groups into Mayor's Committees on Employment of the Handicapped.

The Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped has assumed the responsibility of this program and has continued to work through Mayor's Committees around the state to educate business and industry leaders on such topics as affirmative action for employing the handicapped and architectural barrier removal. Seminars have been held in a number of areas around the state on these topics during the past year.

## THE COST OF REHABILITATION

Supporting unemployed disabled persons is a continuous cost year after year. The cost for rehabilitation per client was only \$2,790 last year — only a fraction of the annual cost per case at many state institutions such as prisons, hospitals and treatment centers.

A number of advisory committees and boards have been an invaluable resource to the Department in their planning and delivery of services to handicapped citizens. The Department has also used volunteers in other areas such as recreation in residential and other facilities.

## ANNUAL EXPENSE

The total operating expense of the Vocational Rehabilitation Department during fiscal year 1980-81 was \$34,848,017. Of this amount \$32,973,195 or 94.6% was spent for "services to individuals." This includes counseling and placement of clients, including professional and clerical salaries, travel, communications, supplies, rent, office maintenance and equipment. These monies are spent also on diagnostic procedures, surgery, treatment, prosthetic appliances, hospitalization and convalescent care, training, equipment and licenses for clients.

The remaining \$1,874,822 or 5.4% was spent on administration of the Department. This includes administrative and clerical salaries, travel, communication, supplies, public information, rent, office maintenance and equipment.

A comparison of expenditures for fiscal year 1979-80 and 1980-81 shows:

	<b>FY 1979-80</b>	<b>FY 1980-81</b>
Administration	\$ 1,713,345	\$1,874,822
Basic VR Services Program	20,956,463	21,290,182
CETA	1,234,295	1,336,901
Work Activity Centers	579,657	660,667
Special Projects	2,508,130	1,594,833
Disability Determination	4,993,389	5,787,653
Workshop Production	2,013,374	2,302,959
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$33,998,653</b>	<b>\$34,848,017</b>

In addition to the \$34,848,017 for operating expenses, \$902,978 was spent on capital improvements making total expenditures \$35,750,995 for FY 1980-81.



## PUBLICATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report - South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department

Breakthrough - a pictorial, graphic and factual review of each fiscal year

New Horizons - a newsletter

From Dependence to Independence

Your Handbook of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Palmetto Center

Holmesview Alcoholic Center

Vocational Rehabilitation Comprehensive Center

Supplemental Security Income

Programs for Deaf and Hearing Impaired

Has Disability Got You Down?

50 Years of Service to the Handicapped

Client Handbook (Vocational Rehabilitation Comprehensive Center)

Independent Living Program

1982 Journalism Contest

Special Licensing and Parking for the Handicapped

Handicapped Parking Tickets

